

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for use by ~~an~~ a first access point capable of communicating in a wireless communications network via a radio frequency channel, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining data indicative of distance to a mobile terminal device that is associated with the first access point on the radio frequency channel;

detecting that a second access point is ~~one or more other access points~~ are also using the radio frequency channel; and

adjusting transmit power as a function of distance to the second access point and distance to the mobile terminal device such that:

if the second access point is nearer to the first access point than the mobile terminal device, setting transmit power based on distance to the mobile terminal device; and

if the second access point is not nearer to the first access point than the mobile terminal device, setting transmit power based on distance to the second access point
to in response to said detecting.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of detecting further comprises: receiving at least one message ~~messages~~ from the second access point ~~one or more other access points~~; maintaining a table including indications of the transmit power attenuation levels of the second access point ~~respective one or more other access points~~; and wherein the step of adjusting transmit power does so in response to the indications in the table.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of: transmitting a power backoff level ~~to other wireless devices in the network~~, the power backoff level indicative of the amount by which the first access point's transmit power has been adjusted.

4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein the wireless communications network is an 802.11 wireless network.

5. (new) The method of claim 1 including the further step of increasing transmit power in response to detecting that the mobile terminal device is in motion.